

Remarks

The Present Election is responsive to the Restriction of **May 19, 2005**. Reexamination and reconsideration of **claims 1-15 and 17-25** is respectfully requested.

Summary of The Restriction

The Office Action stated that this application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: slots with terminal regions wherein the slots/terminal regions are defined by:

Species A. Central region "a" and terminal regions "b" and "c" (e.g., see Fig. 5e)

Species B. First portion 710 and second portion 712 (e.g., see Fig. 7a).

Election

Applicant elects to prosecute claims 1-15 and 17-25, without traverse. Independent claim 16 is now canceled.

The Office Action did not identify which claims fall within which of the Species. Applicant has reviewed the claims to identify the claim groups that belong to the same species in a manner intended by the Examiner.

Applicant notes that second portion 712 of Species B is described in Paragraph [00052] of the present application as a chamfered portion. None of the present claims specifically recite a chamfered portion. As such, the Applicant is not certain which claims the Examiner believes to be readable on Species B.

Based on Applicant's best understanding of the Examiner's restriction, Applicant believes claims 1-15 and 20-25 belong to the same species (e.g. Species A), and claims 16-19 may belong to another species (e.g. Species B).

However, dependent claim 18 has been re-written in independent form and is now believed to belong to Species A since it recites a central region and a terminal region. With the cancellation of claim 16, Applicant believes all remaining claims belong to the same species and the restriction requirement should now be removed.

Listing of claims readable on Species:

Species A – claims 1-15 and 17-25.

Species B – Claim 16.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Petar Kraguljac", written over a horizontal line.

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